



Important Notices to FBAR E-Filers: Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR)

January 8th, 2018 –The Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR) available on the BSA E-Filing System was updated to include minor edits to the Discrete (Online) report on December 8th, 2017. These changes are:

TIN Type Dropdown Standardization in Part III (Part III Information on Financial Account(s) Owned Jointly), Part IV (Part IV Information on Financial Account(s) Where Filer has Signature or Other Authority but No Financial Interest in the Account(s)) and Part V (Part V Information on Financial Account(s) Where Filer is Filing a Consolidated Report). Each TIN Type Dropdown Field will include a new Unknown option:

EIN
SSN/ITIN
Foreign
Unknown

A new “If Entity” Checkbox will be added to Part III and Part IV (Item 29a and 37a) with the following instructions:

Enter if the owner is an entity. By default, if this box is not checked, you are indicating that this is an individual and therefore a first and last name should be available.

Discrete Filers

Previous saved versions of the FBAR Discrete report will no longer be accepted effective January 8th, 2018. Filers who submit previous saved versions of the FBAR Discrete report will receive the error message “Error: Your submission is not supported by the BSA E-Filing System.”. If you encounter this error, please download the most current version of the FBAR report or utilize the HTML option at the following link: <https://bsaefiling.fincen.treas.gov/NoRegFBARFiler.html>.

Batch Filers

Batch filers are required to submit the updated FBAR data in an XML based file for current year filings, rather than the current ASCII based fixed-length delimited file. Based on feedback from software vendors regarding maintaining prior year's versions of tax preparer software in ASCII, we will continue to accept the ASCII based fixed-length delimited file until October 16th, 2018 to allow for the submission of prior year FBARs. The XML User Guide can be downloaded at [FinCEN Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts \(FBAR\) Electronic Filing Requirements for XML](#). We recently updated the XML User Guide with changes documented in the Revision History. The batch FBAR XSD file can be downloaded at the following location: [FinCEN Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts \(FBAR\) XSD](#).

The BSA E-Filing Test site (<https://sdtmut.fincen.treas.gov>) has been updated to allow for testing of XML batch files.

Questions or issues may be directed to the BSA E-Filing Help Desk at 1-866-346-9478 or via email at BSAEFilingHelp@fincen.gov. The Help Desk is available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. EST. Please note that the Help Desk is closed on Federal holidays.